

August 26, 2015

Federal Communications Commission
Tom Wheeler, Chairman
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Proceeding Number 15-149

Dear Mr. Chairman and Commissioners,

I support the merger between Charter Communication and Time Warner Cable, which also includes the acquisition of Bright House Networks. This transaction will present many benefits to the people of Grand Junction, both businesses and consumers, and will also potentially provide jobs for the region.

The most immediate benefit will be the expansion of broadband internet to underserved areas. This has been a serious problem in many parts of rural western Colorado, including the Grand Junction area. Access to broadband is an economic issue, as nearly all businesses in every sector rely on high-speed internet for accounting, communications, marketing, product support, and a myriad of other functions. The lack of access to this vital communications service is a costly impediment to doing business in the areas that are without the available networks.

New Charter, the company that will be formed from the merger, has agreed to invest in the build out of 1 million line extensions of their networks into residential areas that have previously been without service. They are also committed to a \$2.5 billion investment in the build out of networks into commercial areas.

Both of these investment tracks will bring high speed internet to areas that have sorely needed it for some time, and not only bring new business and economic opportunities to many rural areas and parts of our region that have traditionally been underserved, but improve the quality of life for the residents.

Even consumers who have had the advantage of high-speed internet service previously will experience a benefit from this merger. New Charter will upgrade the acquired Time Warner and Bright House systems to a faster digital format, which will improve quality and speed of basic internet, hi definition, and video on demand.

All of this investment will mean jobs for people in the areas where the build outs will occur, so the economic benefits of the merger will not be limited to just the expansion of service, as important as that is. Jobs will also be created as New Charter moves their call centers back to the U.S. from overseas.

From any angle you look at this, from economic, to quality of life, to improved consumer choice and service, to increased competition, this merger is a good deal for the American public, and for the people and economy of Grand Junction and the surrounding area. Please offer it your full approval.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Duncan McArthur', with a stylized, flowing script.

Duncan McArthur
Grand Junction City Council